THE NONAGON

SPRING – 1989

NEW HAMPSHIRE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

NUMISMATIC CALENDAR

April 22-23 South Portland, Maine, Mariott Hotel, Maine Mall, Maine Numismatic Assn.

April 29-30 27th ANNUAL NEW HAMPSHIRE NUMISMATIC ASSN. Concord, Community Ctr.,39 Green St. Over 30 dealers in coins and stamps, Coin Auction, 6 P.M. Sat. Door prizes.

May 7 and First Suday each month, Holiday Inn, Portsmouth traffic circle

May 21 and third Sunday each month, Exit 4, Nashua, Holiday Inn

Oct. 21-22, Nashua Coin Club Show, St. Phillips Hall, Nashua

Oct. 28-29 Tri-State Collectors' Exhibition, Concord Community Ctr, Concord, N.H.

Nov. 11-12, Pine Tree Coin Club, Ramada Inn, Odlin Rd., Exit 45B, Bangor, Maine

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Cocheco Valley Coin Club meets the first and third Sunday each month at McIntosh College, Cataract Ave., Dover, N. H. at 7 P.M. The first Sunday meeting will generally include a business meeting and trading coins and information. The third Sunday meeting will generally include an auction and no business meeting. This is a fairly small but active club and new members are welcome. Come and look us over.

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Nashua Coin Club will have a show this fall as listed in above calendar. Get in on the action now by joining the club. They have an excellent group of members. Contact Mr. or Mrs. Ed Dame, Ken Young, Don Pickering, or other members for information on time and place of meetings.

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Cheshire Numismatic Society is one of the oldest coin clubs in New Hampshire. Contact Charles Nims or Fred McPhail for information of date and place of meetings.

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27TH ANNUAL N.H.N.A. CONVENTION APRIL 29 & 30 IN CONCORD, N. H.

More than 30 bourse tables will serve collectors at New Hampshire Numismatic Assn. 27th annual convention, April 29 & 30, at Concord Community Center, 39 Green Street, Concord, N.H. (back of the City Hall) This coin and stamp show is hosted by New Hampshire Collectors' Club. Bourse chairman Ken Fancher, 14 Rosedale St., Hooksett, N.H. 03106 may still have a couple of tables available.

Exhibit chirman, Robert Wester, 54 High St. Extension, Suncook, N.H. will reserve stamp frames or show cases for anyone who wishes to exhibit. Trophies are offered for Best of Show, and also for best Numismatic and best philatelic exhibit. We hope you will have an exhibit.

Fred McPhail will conduct an auction of coins etc. at 6 P.M. following the annual business meeting conducted by President Sylvia Johnson at 5 to 6 P.M. Plan to attend the business meeting and learn more about your organization.

President Michael Nelson of Cocheco Valley Coin Club, Dover, did a tremendous job organizing the show for Snively Arena, Durham, with his club as host but Maine Numismatic Association scheduled their show on the same dates and this resulted in too few dealers available to cover the higher expenses at Snively Arena.

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IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP PAID UP?

One reason we have been able to keep New Hampshire Numismatic Assn. dues so low is that we do not send out bills for dues. However, the label on each Nonagon tells you how you stand. If your label has 1989 on it you owe 1989 dues of $2. If the figure is 1988 you owe dues of $4, $2 for each year. For years before 1988 dues were $1 a year. Most members pay several years at a time which saves postage and bother. The life membership fee of $25 is very attractive and you never have to pay dues again. Anyone with dues up to date will be admitted free to the show Apr.29-30. Others pay 50¢. You may pay at the show, or send to Sam Allen, Box 1655, Dover,N.H. 03820.

DAVE BOWERS REVEALS THE STORY BEHIND DR. G. G. WILKINS

"The Strange Career of Dr. Wilkins" is the title of booklet recently published by Q. David Bowers. The booklet not only reveals a great deal of information about the Dr. G. G. Wilkins counterstamps and Dr. Wilkins, but also much general information on counterstamps. It may be ordered from Bowers and Merena, Box 1224, Wolfeboro, N.H. 03894.

The Spring 1977 Nonagon had a lengthy paragraph on the Dr. G. G. Wilkins counterstamps including some information not in the Bowers' book. However, Dave came up with the answers a lot of people were looking for. George G. Wilkins was practicing dentistry in Pittsfield, N. H. in 1860. Since it was common practice in those days to assume the title of Doctor on little except personal whim and no licence was required, it is likely that he had little if any formal training. However, this may be the least of the criticisms against him.

In the late 1860's Wilkins added other businesses including the Railroad Barber Shop and trading in animal furs. He also ran a saloon and eating house, was listed as a hair dresser. He also sold patent medicine including "Pure Bear's Oil". He expanded into selling rifles, handguns, and ammunition aquiring the nickname "Fort Wilkins"for his establishment.

Wilkins was in trouble with the law on several occasions, some connected with the sale of liquor and later for attempting to hire a person to burn down a barn belonging to his competitor who owned the Washington House. He was also accused of offering large quantities of counterfeit money at 50¢ on a doller. One paper referred to him as the noterious "Doctor", and the lawyer for the arson victim said he knew the reputation of Wilkins for 15 years and "hell was too good a place for him." For more details on the counterstamps, much early Pittsfield history, and more information of the activities of the "hero" of Fort Wilkins you will get your money'sworth and more from the Bowers book.

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WANTED: Articles for the Nonagon. Please send articles of interest to me: Wayne S. Rich, Box 391, Concord, N.H. 03302

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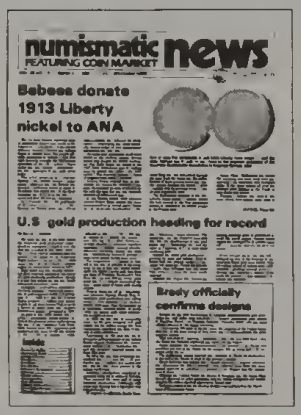
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ADVERTISING

Advertising is accepted for the Nonagon at the following rates: $12.00 for a full page; $7.50 for half a page; $4.50 for one-fourth page: $3. for one-eighth page. The same ad may be included for three successive issues at two and a half times the single rate. The Nonagon is issued three times a year, usually during the first part of January, April, and September. Copy for ads should be submitted to Wayne S. Rich, Box 391, Concord, N. H. by Jan. 1, April 1, or Sept. 1. Check for payment should be made to N. H. N. A. Our thanks to those favoring us with ads. Please mention the Nonagon when responding to ads herein. Thanks.

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